

REMARKS

The indication that claims 5-9 are allowable, and that claims 2-4 are objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is acknowledged.

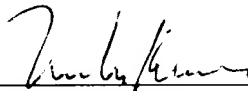
By the above amendment, claims 1 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and claims 2-4 have been written in independent form, thereby placing claims 2-9 in condition for allowance.

Turning to the rejection of claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DiGiovanni et al, U.S.P. No. 5,802,236, such rejection has been obviated in light of the cancellation of claims 1 and 10, and discussion of the cited art is considered unnecessary.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that this application should now be in condition for allowance, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.40590X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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